



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/542,553	12/15/2005	Francois Simon	SIMON12	7036
1444	7590	10/06/2008	EXAMINER	
BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.			GREENE, JASON M	
624 NINTH STREET, NW				
SUITE 300			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-5303			1797	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			10/06/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/542,553	SIMON ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jason M. Greene	1797	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 19-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 19-34 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 18 July 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .                                     |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ .                         |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Specification***

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains two occurrences of the legal phraseology “means” in line 5. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 19-34 are allowed.
3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Fleishman et al. (US 5,297,942) discloses a rotary machine capable of generating a flux of fluid comprising a rotor (10) bearing a fitting (11) in the form of a crown at least partially made in a flexible material, permeable to fluids, means for driving (via axis 15) the rotor into rotation at a variable velocity in Figs. 1 and 2 and col. 3, line 34 to col. 4, line 68.

McDonald (US 3,190,544) discloses a rotary machine capable of generating a flux of fluid comprising a rotor (10,11,12) bearing a fitting (14) in the form of a crown at least partially made in a flexible material, permeable to fluids, means for driving (via hub

13) the rotor into rotation at a variable velocity in Figs. 1 and 2 and col. 1, line 54 to col. 2, line 26.

Abbott (US 3,123,286) discloses a rotary machine capable of generating a flux of fluid comprising a rotor (9) bearing a fitting (6) in the form of a crown at least partially made in a flexible material, permeable to fluids, means (4) for driving the rotor into rotation at a variable velocity in Figs. 1-5 and col. 2, line 52 to col. 4, line 24.

The prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggest the apparatus of claim 19 comprising a self-cleaning means comprising as a combination control means capable of acting on the aforesaid means for driving the rotor into rotation at a variable velocity so as to generate a sudden change in the rotational velocity of the rotor, coupling means between a first face of the fitting and the aforesaid driving means, and an annular part borne by a second face of the fitting so that due to the inertia of this annular part, the sudden change in rotational velocity of the rotor generates a process of torsion and/or compression of the fitting and consequently the self-cleaning of the fitting.

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Keller, Fortune, Kling, Brown et al., Popovich et al., Streifinger, Divers and Tang et al. references disclose similar systems.

Art Unit: 1797

5. This application is in condition for allowance except for the above noted formal matters.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213, (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Greene whose telephone number is (571) 272-1157. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (9:00 AM to 5:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jason M. Greene  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1797

/Jason M. Greene/  
10/1/08

jmg  
October 1, 2008